have consistently championed the cause of the oppressed majority in South Africa and given considerable material, moral and dimplomatic assistance to the liberation struggle.

Indians held hostage by Iraqi forces

2554. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Wll the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 15 Indian were held hostage by Iraqi forces during the Gulf war ;

(b) if so, the total number of Indians held hostage by Iraqi forces; and

(c) what steps Government have taken for the early release of Indians ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) to (c) Around 60 Indians detained by Iraq during its occupation of Kuwait were released after government of India took up the matter with the Iraqi authorities. There are no definitive reports of any other Indian under detention by Iraq.

American stand on Indo-Pak relation

2555. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the US Under Secretary of State for International Security Affairs Reginald Bartholomew Visited New Delhi during last month after visiting Pakistan ;

(b) if so, the matters discussed with him by the Indian leaders ;

(c) whether during his visit to Pakistan, he told Pakistan's President that it was not Washington's policy to make India a regional hegemonic power in South Asia and in the process for sake its 40 year long friendship with Islamabad ;

(d) whether during his talks with Pakstan, the latter conveyed to him that it would not compromise on its nuclear programme under pressure from any quarter; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Govern ment of India to the US Government's stand on the various issues particularly on Non-Prolifertion Treaty in the context of the Pakistani nuclear prog-gamme ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Discussions were held on matters of mutual concern including the security environment in the region.

(c) and (d) Government have seen Pakistani press reports to this effect.

(e) Government have noted the US Government's stand. Government's position on the Non-Proliferation Treaty remains consistent.

International pressure on India for signing Non-Proliferation Treaty

2556. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of countries and international organisations which have either formally or informally but publicly suggested to India to sign the NPT ;

(b) the response of the Government of India to these suggestions; and

(c) what steps Govern-nent have taken or propose to take to counter this increasing but pernicious pressure on India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADH AVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) The NPT signatory States have called for universalisation of the Treaty at NPT review conferences and other international fora and in .this connection they have in general terms been urging those States which are not parties to the NPT to sign the Treaty. However, we are not aware of any specific public demarche singling out India.

(b) and (c) We have made known our principled and consistent stand on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in the context of its being discriminatory and iniquitous.

चीन द्वारा अरुणाचल प्रदेश में हेलीपैड का बनाया जाना

2557. श्री रणजीत सिंह :
डा० जितेन्द्र कुमार जैन :

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 14 सितम्बर, 1991 के "जनसत्ता" में "अरुणाचल प्रदेश में चीन ने एक और हेलीपेड

बनाया" शीर्ष से छपे समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) क्या चीन ने वास्तव में भारतीय क्षेत्र के भीतर अरुणाचल प्रदेश में एक हेलीपेड बनाया है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या है और क्या भारत सरकार ने इस मामले में चीन की सरकार के साथ संपर्क किया है ; यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

विदेश मंत्री (श्रीमाधव सिंह सोलंकी) :

(क) जी हां ।

(ख) इस बात की कोई सूचना नहीं है कि चीन ने हाल ही में अरुणाचल प्रदेश में एक हेलीपेड बनाया है ।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Implementation of India-Soviet Accord

2558. SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN : will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of schemes included in the protocol signed between India and USSR during Mr. Gorbachev's visit to India two years back ; and

(b) how far they have been implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) President M.S. Gorbachev visited India last in November 1988. Details of implementation of agreements signed during this visit are being obtained from the concerned Ministries/Departments.

LTTE Ships involvement in Arms Smuggling

2559. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased *to* state :

(a) whether Governments attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "LTTE ships involved in arms smuggling" as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 16th November, 1991 ;

(b) whether LTTE's ships with different flags are operating for smuggling of arms and ammunition etc ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government have received reports of LTTE owned ships involved in smuggling of arms and ammunition etc. In order to prevent unlawful activity smugglers/militants off the Tamil Nadu coast, Government have taken steps to intensify naval patrolling within the International Boundary Line.

India's stand on nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

2560. SHRI G.G. SWELL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state 1

(a) whether China has accepted the Nuclear Non-prolifrasion Treaty ;

(b) whether this has brought about a change in the climate for a nuclear free zone in Asia and South Asia ; and

(c) whether in the light of the above development India will review its stand on nuclear non-proliferation treaty ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) China has decided, in principle, to aceede to the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. It has however not yet signed the treaty.

(b) No Sir.

(c) No Sir.

Murders of Blacks in South Africa

2561. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDKANT BHANDARE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attenction has been drawn to the fact that even after the withdrawal of apartheid by South African Government hundreds of blacks have been massacred in South Africa;

(b) if so, the number of the coloured South Africans so far killed In black townships, by the whites during the period; and